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February 21, 2002  
B00/0148 IB/SF/mtz

### **Abstract**

A methanol reforming catalyst containing passivated copper and zinc oxide and/or alumina can be prepared by

- (1) precipitating or spray-drying a mixture of catalyst precursor components dissolved or suspended in a diluent in order to form a solid catalyst precursor in the form of powder or granules,
- (2) calcining and reducing the solid catalyst precursor obtained in stage (1),
- (3) passivating the reduced catalyst precursor obtained in stage (2) and
- (4) shaping the passivated catalyst precursor obtained in stage (3) to form the catalyst.

A reduction in the volume shrinkage and an increase in the mechanical hardness during operation of the methanol reforming catalyst are achieved by the preparation process.